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motions contained no tœnia, nor any of the substance before mentioned. He experienced no pain or heat in the urinary passages, though the urine continued to impart a scent of turpentine for three or four days. The patient has since remained in perfect health, enjoying a degree of comfort, to which he had been a stranger for the preceding half year. He also said that the medicine, while swallowing, occasioned less heat than the same quantity of brandy, or other spirit; and that the taste, and heat, which it caused, were soon removed by the honey.

From this, and other instances, the doctor is induced to conclude, that the best method of taking the oil, is without any admixture: that the dose of nine drachms occasions very little inconvenience: and that this quantity, perhaps owing to its quick purgative effect, excites no irritation in the urinary passages, although it imparts its peculiar smell to the urine.

The doctor prefers giving the medicine uncombined, in which state it is not attended with any particular inconvenience; and states, that there is no certain method of ascertaining the presence of the tœnia but by actual discharge of portions of the worm itself, as the pains and heaviness of the abdomen, the dyspœnia and emaciation which the worm occasions, may also be produced by other causes.

In the number of the Philosophical Magazine, which follows that from which the foregoing account is extracted, several other cases are related, where the oil of turpentine has been administered for worms; in most of which it succeeded so well, as to leave little doubt of its being very superior to most medicines hitherto used for the same purpose.

#### *De Luc's electric column.*

The small bells connected with the electric column invented by Mr. De Luc, which have been frequently before noticed in this publication, were perceived to cease ringing for about ten minutes on the 4th of September; then (the apparatus remaining untouched,) to begin again to ring by intervals, stopping perhaps half a second or more, at a time: they stopped for several days after this, and began again, and at other times stopped for hours: On the 18th of November, they were removed from the column, not having been heard that morning.

#### *On purifying olive oil for the pivots of chronometers, by M. Ez. Walker.*

*Phil. Mag.* xxxvi; 372.

Nothing has been found to decrease the friction in time-keepers so well as oil. But it has long been known that its use in marine chronometers is attended with very bad consequences; for it gradually loses its fluidity during a long voyage, and adheres to the machine; by which all regularity in its performance is prevented. These considerations led Mr. Walker in 1799, to make experiments of methods to improve the quality of oil for this purpose; in which he succeeded so as to separate a thick mucilaginous matter from even the best oil, which mucilage was opaque and whitish, heavier than oil, but lighter than water. The oil from which the mucilage has been taken is exceedingly transparent in a fluid state, but when frozen appears much whiter than common oil exposed to the same degree of cold.

About ten years ago Mr. Walker sent some of this oil to Mr. Barraud, requesting him to make trial of it, and in March 1802, Mr. B. informed him "that he had just

received a chronometer in which the prepared oil had been used; which having performed a voyage of 16 months to and from India, was then vibrating as freely as at first, and keeping the rate it went out with to a fraction of a second."

In a letter to Mr. Walker, inserted at large in the original paper, Mr. Barraud farther states, "that for upwards of ten years he had constantly used the prepared oil for his chronometers, and in their return from long voyages always found the oil in good condition, and much better than any he had been able to procure before; Mr. Barraud also induced Mr. Brockbank to try it, who very gratefully acknowledged the advantage he had derived from its use; having found Mr. Walker's oil, on the return of his chronometers from India, far superior in quality to any he had before been able to procure."

The following is Mr. Walker's directions for preparing the pure oil, above mentioned.

"Put a quantity of the best olive oil into a phial, with two or three times as much water, so that the phial may be about half full; shake the phial briskly for a little time, turn the cork downwards, and let most part of the water flow out between the side of the cork and the neck of the phial. Thus the oil must be washed five or six times. After the last quantity of water has been poured off, what remains is a mixture of water, oil, and mucilage.—To separate these from each other put the phial into hot water for three

or four minutes, and most part of the water will fall to the bottom, which must be drawn off as before.

The oil must then be poured into a smaller phial, which being nearly full, must be well corked, set in a cool place, and be suffered to stand undisturbed for three or four months, or until all the water shall have subsided, with the mucilage on the top of it, and the oil perfectly transparent swimming upon the top of the mucilage. When time has thus compleated the operation, the pure oil must be poured off into very small phials, and kept in a cool place, well corked to preserve it from the air.

*Improvement in writing and printing numbers, consisting of many digits, by A. Reirtalp.*

*Phil. Mag.* xxxvi; 397.

When a number such as 69,470,600,078,406,300,097, presents itself, though pointed in periods of three figures, the manner of expressing it in words does not immediately occur to the mind. The mode which Mr. Reirtalp proposes as an improvement is, besides pointing it in periods of three figures, to place one accent over the seventh figure, or millions; two accents over the 13th figure, or billions; and so on, increasing the accents at every myriad,

thus— $\overset{m}{69},\overset{n}{470},\overset{t}{600},\overset{b}{078},\overset{t}{406},\overset{b}{300},\overset{t}{097}$ , by which we can perceive at once, that the two first figures denote trillions, without the usual mode of reckoning according to the Numeration table.

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